IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Group Art Unit: 2813 In re Patent Application of: Examiner: David C. Finsmith Hidetoshi ISHIDA et al. **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** Serial No. 09/707,844 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with Filed: November 8, 2000 sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE For: Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 19, 2002. TECHNOLOGY LENTER 280 **AMENDMENT** Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Examiner's non-final Office Action mailed December 19, 2001, the period for responding having been extended one (1) month, please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application.

The Examiner's non-final Office Action dated December 19, 2001 has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-7 were pending in the present application of which claims 1 and 6 are independent.

Claims 1 and 4 are Not Anticipated By Aoyama

Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Aoyama, U.S. Patent No. 5,933,364 (Aoyama). The Applicants respectfully traverse the § 102 rejection

Dear Sir: